

In addition to relying on evidence when making decisions, many individuals seek guidance from professional codes, principles, or standards. After reviewing the [ALA's Code of Ethics](#), chose one principle that you think is highly important for a twenty-first century library/librarian. Explain why you think this principle is highly important.

Now thinking of how libraries are evolving consider the following:

- Would you add any additional principles?
- Would you revise any of the existing principles?
- Explain your answer and offer the sample language for any additional or revised principles.

After posting your discussion answer, reply to at least two of your classmates' posts.

One principle that I think is highly important for a twenty-first century library is “a shared purpose of copyright...to benefit the public through the creation and dissemination of information and creative works” (American Library Association, 2021). Libraries have been evolving from reading nooks to social spaces. Books are being replaced with E-books and maker spaces. With this in mind, as information continues to be transferred digitally, “copyright law should balance the public’s need to access and use informative and creative work with the economic interests of right’s holders” (American Library Association, 2021).

I would include a principle regarding new textbook editions with high price tags. Many publishers release “updated” editions of textbooks that include a new forward or preface. A minimum should be placed on “updates” to old versions of a textbook. For example, a new edition should not be considered if a publisher is simply including a forward or preface. A substantial amount of changes should be made in order to consider an updated edition. Additionally, as more books are transitioning to e-versions, updates should be available from the publisher for those who have purchased previous editions, similar to software updates like those that Apple provides to iPhone users. This way, it levels the playing field especially for students who bear the cost of purchasing college textbooks on low budgets.

Sample language for this principle is as follows:

The economic interests of right’s owners shall not supersede the public’s need to access information. Copyright holders shall be responsible for bearing the cost of updates to their work.

American Library Association. (2014). [*Copyright: An Interpretation of the Code of Ethics*](http://www.ala.org/tools/ethics/copyright). Retrieved March 29, 2021, from <http://www.ala.org/tools/ethics/copyright>